

B. T. II. 68

R U L E S

A N D

CONSTITUTIONS

O F T H E

MAIDEN HOSPITAL;

Founded by the

Craftsmen of EDINBURGH, and
MARY ERSKINE.

E D I N B U R G H :

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M,DCC,LXIX.



P R E F A C E.

THE infinite wise Creator and supreme Ruler of the World, hath, for holy and excellent Ends, thought fit to make a discernible Difference in the Stations and Circumstances of the Children of Men, while they are in a State of Trial in this lower World. Higher and subordinate Powers are ordained of him; Magistracy is his Ordinance, instituted by him, that there might be a regular Disposal of a beautiful Fabric of human Societies; and therefore it may be justly called, 1 Pet. ii. 13. An Ordinance of Man, a human Creature or Structure. The glorious Gospel of our Redeemer doth not destroy, but firmly establish this divine Constitution of Superiority and Inferiority, even amongst those that are the adopted Sons of his Father, and joint Heirs with himself of the same heaven-

ii P R E F A C E.

ly Kingdom. *The Words of the Apostle, 1 Tim. Chap. vi. ver. 1. 2. are a plain Proof of this: Let as many Servants as are under the Yoke, count their own Masters worthy of all Honour, that the Name of God and his Doctrine be not blasphemed. And they that have believing Masters, let them not despise them, because they are Brethren, but rather do them Service, because they are faithful and beloved Partakers of the Benefit. And as the Sovereign Lord hath, for the Good of Mankind, appointed that there should be Rulers and Subjects, Governors, and those that are governed; so it hath pleased him, in the unsearchable Wisdom of his Providence, to make such a Distribution of the good Things of this Life, as some should have a larger, some a lesser Share of them, and others should be left to be provided for by the compassionate Care of their richer fellow rational*

P R E F A C E. iii

tional Creatures; so that this Variety that is in the Circumstances of Men as to the Comforts of this Earth, is, in spotless Righteousness, ordered by unerring Wisdom, which is admired and exalted in a high Strain of Praise by the great and religious King David, 1 Chron. xxix. 10. 11. 12. And it is sung by holy Hannah to the Praise of the wise Management of the great God, 1 Sam. ii. 7. The Lord maketh poor and maketh rich; he bringeth low, and lifteth up. The righteous Lord, who is pleased to order thus the Affairs of Men, as to this Life, hath in his Goodness given many excellent Directions for our Conduct in the Management of ourselves, with a Respect to one another in our several Stations and Circumstances in this World; and it is a very comprehensive one which we have, 1 Pet. iii. 8. 9. Finally, be all of one Mind; be unanimously concerned for the Glory of your God and Redeemer,

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deemer, in a Conformity to the Principles of true Religion, having Compassion one of another: Love as Brethren, be pitiful, be courteous. No Man, how rich and great soever he be, can justly pretend to have an absolute Power to dispose of what he possesseth, according to his mere Will and Pleasure; he is to have an awful Regard to the Rules prescribed to him by the Most High God, the Possessor of Heaven and Earth, who will vindicate the Honour of his own Laws, and be avenged upon the obstinate and proud Contemners thereof. It is his royal Law, That every Man should love his Neighbour as himself; and the Sanction of it is of a frightful Import, He shall have Judgment without Mercy that hath shewed no Mercy, Ja. ii. 8. 13. It is not left to those that have not only the Necessaries, but the Conveniencies of Life, to be charitable or not, as they please, to such as are indigent.

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indigent. The Earth is the Lord's, and the Fulness thereof. He hath reserved to himself the sovereign Propriety of both, and parcels them out to the Children of Men, as seemeth good to him; but always with this Clause in their Lease, that out of their Store they shall, according to their Ability and Circumstances, supply the Wants of the indigent, as they would not lose their Right and Title to what they possess, and provoke their supreme Lord to curse them in the City and in the Field, in their Basket and in their Store, in the Increase of their Kine, and Flocks of their Sheep, and permit them to be only oppressed and crushed always to such a Degree, that they shall be mad, for the Sight of their Eyes which they shall see, Deut. xxviii. 16, 17, 18, 34. I am obliged in Charity to be persuaded, that the serious Consideration of these Things hath influenced
the

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the Inhabitants of the honourable City of Edinburgh, both Merchants and Craftsmen, to give an exemplary Proof of their Concern for the Glory of God, for the Honour of the holy Religion which they profess, and for the public Good of their City in particular, and the Land of their Nativity in general, both as to their religious and civil Interest, to do what was in their Power, for supplying what was defective as to charitable Foundations, for the Support, and the virtuous and Christian Education of Female young ones; which otherways, when come to ripen Age, might, thro' Poverty and Want, become a Prey to Temptations to Wickedness, and be a Reproach to Christianity, and a Scandal to their Nation, a Plague to Families and Societies, and bring the eternal Wrath of God upon themselves. Such Charity as doth plainly tend to keep off heavy Judgments from City and Country, cannot well be misplaced, as that which

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which is bestowed upon those of a mature Age, may often be, through its being abused to the Encouragement of Idleness and Sloth.

The good, regular, and advanced State that the Craftsmen of this City, have, by their diligent Care, and the Bounty of their several Incorporations, with the liberal Assistance of the worthy late Mary Erskine, have brought their pious Foundation of a Maiden Hospital to, cannot but have some Weight to prevail with Compassionate Christians, to give their helping Hand to such a pious and useful Work.

I am sensible, that there have been so many excellent Discourses upon the Subject of Charity and Beneficence, that any Thing that I can pretend to say upon it, can only be a Repetition of what hath been said to much better Purpose by many others; yet seeing it is not so much through Ignorance of what Men ought to know, as by Want
of

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of Thought and Reflection with Respect to what they do know, that they are often guilty of an inexcusable Neglect of many important Duties, which as Christians they are obliged to perform; I shall only, by Way of Remembrance, stir up the Minds of those, that have not cast off all Regard to Religion, to ponder the Weight of the Arguments, by which it urgeth such a compassionate Regard to our indigent Neighbours, as does go beyond a mere Saying, Be you warmed, be you filled. The holy Scriptures teach us, that God himself is pleased to take the Poor under his peculiar Care and Protection, Psal. x. 14. The Poor committeth himself to thee, thou art the Helper of the Fatherless. And Psal. lxxviii. 5. He is a Father of the Fatherless, and a Judge of the Widow, in his holy Habitation. We are told, Prov. xvii. 5. That he that mocketh the Poor, reproacheth his Maker: He robbeth him

P R E F A C E. ix

Him of the Honour of the Wisdom of his Government. Shall we then have no Compassion upon those that are so much considered by the God of Heaven? This Almighty Creator hath, in his great Goodness, put such Honour upon human Nature, that he hath prescribed our being kind and beneficent to one another, as a Part of Worship paid to himself, James i. 27. Pure and undefiled Religion, or his Worship, is to visit the Fatherless and the Widow. Charity is not indeed an expiatory Sin-Offering; but it is a Christian Sacrifice, a Thank-Offering well pleasing to God, Heb. xiii. 16. It is a high Honour that the glorious God puts upon those, who, by his Blessing upon their lawful Endeavours, have Plenty of the good Things of this Life, or, by his kind Providence, have an Inheritance conveyed to them from their Progenitors, that he substitutes them as Managers for them; leaving to their Care

P R E F A C E.

a part of his World, and requiring them to act like himself, as his Representatives; and as Compassion is his Delight, so he would have it theirs too. Is not this a great Dignity? And shall mortal Creatures so disparage it, as to act in direct Opposition to the plain Design of it, by having little or no Regard to the Circumstances of those that are Objects of Pity and Commiseration? How will they answer for it, when called to give an Account of their Stewardship? It is an unaccountable Folly, that any should think, that they can never be secure against Poverty and Want, but by scraping together, at any Rate, Riches and Wealth, without any Concern to support their starving Neighbours. The righteous Governor of the World hath, in his Providence, given remarkable Proofs of his Indignation against this foolish Imagination and mad Practice, which he hath suffered many of these
heaping

P R E F A C E. xi

*heaping and distrustful Earth-worms to live and see their own Misery; whereas it hath been found, that liberal Men have stood by liberal things. Seeing then that the Distinction, as hath been said, that is in the Circumstances of the Children of Men, as to the Comforts of this Life, is an Ordinance of the Almighty Creator; let us, by having Bowels of Compassion towards the distressed and indigent, testify the Honour and Regard we have to the sacred Constitution of the supreme Law-giver, and our Gratitude to our greatest Benefactor; let us thus make it appear, that we give entire Credit to his Word, and that we have a full Confidence in the Wisdom, Goodness, and Faithfulness of his Government; let us imitate and encourage this Example of pious Charity, of which the following Paper gives us an Account; an Example that ought to be the more valued and regarded, because it is given by those, who generally do, even
by*

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by a laborious Industry, make but a moderate Gain; and it must be allowed, that the Incorporations of the Craftsmen of Edinburgh, have given a visible Proof, in their so largely contributing to the charitable Foundation of a Maiden Hospital, that they are careful to maintain good Works, while they work with their Hands, that they may not only not be burthensome to others, but may have to give to him that needeth; and that their laudable Practice, and the Consideration of what is suggested in these Lines, may have some Weight to influence many to do Good, to be rich in good Works, and to give their chearful Assistance for the promoting of this and other such like great and religious Works of extensive Charity,

Is the earnest Prayer of,

Your faithful Well-wisher

in the Lord,

W. C.

RULES

R U L E S
AND
CONSTITUTIONS
OF THE
MAIDEN HOSPITAL,

Founded by the
Craftsmen of EDINBURGH, and
MARY ERSKINE.

THE Freemen of the Incorporations of the Craftsmen of *Edinburgh*, taking to their serious Consideration, that there were Funds settled and provided for the Education and Maintenance of the Male-children of decayed Burgesſes of the Burgh, and for the Female-

male-children of decayed Merchants; but nothing for the Female-children of decayed Craftsmen of the said Burgh: They, after several Meetings thereanent, did, about three Years ago, unanimously resolve to have an Hospital for the Daughters and Grandchildren of the Female Sex of decayed Craftsmen, who are not able to maintain themselves, and for other poor Maidens, who shall be presented by Persons who should contribute to so good and pious a Work. And upon the 3d of May 1704, they procured an Act from the Council of Edinburgh, approving of their so pious and charitable Resolution; and declaring they would give all due Encouragement thereto. Upon which the Incorporations, by their several Contributions, having purchased and acquired some Houses and
Yards

Yards in Edinburgh, for so pious
 an Use, did cause fit and prepare
 one of these Houses for an Hospi-
 tal, and have already settled there-
 in 23 Girls, with a Governess, and
 School-mistress and Servants: And
 have now procured an Act of Par-
 liament, authorizing the Incorpora-
 tions in carrying on so pious and
 laudable a Design, &c. whereof
 the Tenor follows: “ At Edin-
 “ burgh the Twenty-fifth Day of
 “ March, One thousand seven hun-
 “ dred and seven Years, *Our Sovereign*
 “ *reign Lady*, with Advice and
 “ Consent of the Estates of Parlia-
 “ ment, considering that there is
 “ a pious and laudable Design
 “ now carrying on by the Incor-
 “ porations of the Craftsmen of
 “ Edinburgh, and others who join
 “ with them, authorized by the
 “ Town Council of the said Burgh,
 “ by their Act, dated the 3d Day
 of

“ of May, 1704 Years, for found-
 “ ing and erecting an Hospital for
 “ the Maintenance and Educa-
 “ tion of the Female-children and
 “ Grand-children of decayed
 “ Craftsmen, and others, to be
 “ presented by Persons who give
 “ Donations thereto, which may
 “ be of a general Advantage, and
 “ especially to the City of Edin-
 “ burgh ; Therefore her Majesty,
 “ with Advice and Consent fore-
 “ said, do hereby allow and au-
 “ thorize the said Incorporations
 “ of the Craftsmen of Edinburgh,
 “ and others joining, or who shall
 “ join with them, to meet as oft as
 “ Occasion requires, and to make
 “ such Rules and Constitutions for
 “ the carrying on and supporting
 “ of the said Hospital allenary,
 “ as they shall find just and con-
 “ venient : *As also*, to settle such
 “ Funds, as well out of their pu-
 “ blic

“ blic Boxes belonging to their
 “ respective Administrations, as
 “ private Estates, as they shall
 “ think fit, and to receive Mortifi-
 “ cations or Donations, from any
 “ Person who shall be pleased to
 “ contribute thereto; the said
 “ Rules and Acts to be made by
 “ them, being always consistent
 “ with the Laws of the Kingdom,
 “ and with the Acts and Constitu-
 “ tions of the City of Edinburgh:
 “ And *statutes* and *ordains* the saids
 “ Rules and Constitutions, to be
 “ made by them to be as valid and
 “ effectual to all Intents and Pur-
 “ poses, for the ordering and go-
 “ verning of the Hospital above-
 “ mentioned, as if they were par-
 “ ticularly expressed and set down
 “ in this Act; *Whereanent*, her Ma-
 “ jesty, with Advice and Consent
 “ foresaid, dispenses for ever:
 “ And further, her Majesty, with
 “ Advice and Consent foresaid,

“ ordains and declares, the fore-
 “ said Hospital, when set up
 “ and settled in its Constitutions,
 “ and Directors and Overseers, to
 “ be a free Hospital, for the pious
 “ Use foresaid ; *with Power* to the
 “ said Hospital, and its Overseers
 “ and Directors, not only to ad-
 “ ministrare the Funds and Rents
 “ appertaining thereto, but like-
 “ ways to purchase and acquire
 “ Lands, Tenements, and others;
 “ for the further Good and
 “ Advantage thereof; and for
 “ that end to make, grant, and
 “ receive all Manner of Deeds and
 “ Writs necessary for that Effect;
 “ and to have a Seal, if they shall
 “ think needful, and with such
 “ Inscriptions as they shall appoint
 “ for the Confirmation of the saids
 “ Deeds; and generally to have
 “ all such Powers, Liberties, and
 “ Immunities of a free Hospital,
 “ for pious Uses, as any other Hospi-
 “ tal

" tal for the like Uses hath, or by the
 " Law may have within this King-
 " dom. Extracted forth of the
 " Records of Parliament, by me
 " Sir James Murrory of Philip-
 " haugh, one of the Senators of the
 " College of Justice, Clerk to the
 " Parliament, and to Her Majesty's
 " Councils, Registers and Rolls. *Sic*
 " *Subscribiur*, Ja. Murray, *Cls. Reg.*"

After obtaining the foresaid Act
 of Parliament, the forenamed pious
 and worthy Mary Erskine, Relict of
 James Hair Druggist, Burgess of E-
 dinburgh, (who was the first who
 projected and destinated Funds for
 Maiden Hospitals in the City of E-
 dinburgh,) gave and granted a
 great and considerable Donation
 to the Hospital: for which it is u-
 nanimously agreed, that she shall
 be assumed unto the Title as a
 Founder of the Hospital, and that
 two of the Name of Erskine shall
 be for ever Governors thereof, to
 be

be named by the said Mary Erskine, during her Life, (and who hath accordingly named Mr James Erskine of Grange, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and Mr David Erskine Advocate, for all their Life-times; and after her Death, by the Representative of the present Family of Mar, under whatever Designation it may then happen to be; and that the said Mary Erskine, during her Life, and after her Death, the two Governors of her Name shall have the Presentation of all the Girls whom she had Right to present, conform to her Donation; and that the eldest of the Governors of the said Name, shall preside in Absence of the Conveener, and shall keep one of the three Keys of the Hospital's Charter-house, as the Right and Disposition made and granted by the said Mary Erskine, in Favours of the Hospital, at more Length bears.

In

In pursuance of that Part of the Act of Parliament, anent the Rules and Constitutions, the Deacon Conveener, remanent Deacons of the several Incorporations of the Crafts-men of Edinburgh, Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellors and others joined with them, and the said Lord Grange and Mr David Erskine, after several Meetings and serious Considerations, *have unanimously* agreed and resolved upon the Rules following, *viz.*

I.

The Freeman Crafts-men of Edinburgh, and the said Mary Erskine, being the Founders of the Hospital, the same shall now, and in all Time coming, in all Inscriptions, Acts, Contracts, or other Writs, be named and called the *Maiden Hospital* founded by the Crafts-men of Edinburgh, and Mary Erskine.

The Name
and Title
of the Ho-
spital.

II.

II.

The Go-
vernors,
and their
Election.

The Deacons for the Time, of the several Incorporations, Contributors to this good Work, and the two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of Erskine (nominated, as is hereafter declared) are perpetually to be Governors of the said Hospital(a). And there shall be chosen, (in Manner as is hereafter appointed) yearly, on the second *Monday of October*, as many as with the said Deacons, two Trades Counsellors, and two of the Name of Erskine, shall make up twenty and seven Persons, and these Persons elected are also to be Governors of the said Hospital, during one Year next ensuing their Election; and in case of the removing of any of these elected Governors by Death or otherwise, the other Governors for the Time shall, by Plurality of
Votes,

(a) Vide Appendix, No 3.

[II]

Votes, choose a Person to supply the Vacancy. The Conveener for the Time is to preside in all Meetings, and, in his Absence, the eldest Governor of the Name of Erskine is to preside; and, in Absence of both, a Preses is to be chosen by Vote.

III.

The Governors to be yearly elected, shall be chosen by the saids Deacons of the Incorporations, two Trades Counsellors, and two Governors of the Name of Erskine, and every Donator who gives 2000 Merks to the Hospital, shall, during his Life, and after his Death, any he shall appoint by Writ, have a Vote in electing these yearly added Governors; as also, the saids Donators shall have a Vote in any other Concern of the Hospital,
at

The Persons having Power to elect.

at a General Meeting of the Governors, and they themselves shall also be capable to be elected Governors.

IV.

This Oath
to be taken
by the
Governors.

The present Deacons of the Incorporations, Contributors, and the two present Trades Counsellors, and the Lord Grange, and Mr David Erskine Advocate, named by the said Mary Erskine, to be Governors during all the Days of their Lifetime, and these now joined with them (a); and none else are to have the full Administration and Government of the Hospital, and whole Estate thereof, until the said second *Monday of October*, which is to be the first annual Council-day of electing the new Governors, to be joined to the Deacons and Trades Counsellors, and two Governors

(a) Vid. Appendix, No. 3.

vernors of the Name of Erskine, who are to be perpetual Governors, as said is ; but none of the Governors are to have Vote or Interest in the Concerns of the Hospital, either for Rents or Election, or any other Thing, until they take the Oath following, which is to be administrate by the Clerk, first to the Deacon Conveener or Preses for the Time ; and by the Deacon Conveener or Preses, to all the rest of the Governors. I A. B. *Do faithfully swear and promise before God, that to the best of my Knowledge and Power, I shall carry and demean myself in all Matters which concern the Election of the Officers or Scholars, or any Thing else belonging to the Maiden Hospital, founded by the Crafts-men of Edinburgh and Mary Erskine, truly and honestly : And if I know any going about, at any Time to defraud or prejudice the said pious Work, I shall obstruct it*

to my Power, and reveal it to the Governors for the Time. So help me GOD.

V.

The Place
of Meeting.

The Meetings anent the Elections, or other Concerns of the Hospital, shall either be in the Hospital, or Magdalen Chapel, or some other convenient Place, to which the Conveener, for the Time, shall think fit to cause warn them.

VI.

The Election of the Treasurer and Oath to be taken by him.

(a) Upon the said second Monday of October yearly, there shall be chosen by the then Deacons, and two Trades Counsellors, and two Governors of the name of Erskine, and the new Governors to be chosen and added to them that Day, by Plurality of Votes, a sufficient and qua-

(a) Vide Appendix, No. 1.

qualified Man to be Treasurer to the said Hospital for one Year, whose Office shall be to receive all the Hospital's Rents, to keep all Stock and Money belonging to the Hospital, to pay Wages and Allowances due to the officers and Scholars, or any other Thing belonging to the Hospital; to look diligently to the Reparations of the Buildings of the Hospital, to deliver weekly to the Mistress so much Money, as may provide the Dyet of the whole Hospital for that Week, and to take in an Accompt each Week, how the same is debursed, WITH POWER to him to controll or allow what Accompts relate to the Hospital, as he finds just; and the Treasurer, before he exerce in Presence of the Governors, shall solemnly swear the following Oath. *I A. B. elected Treasurer of the Maiden Hospital found-*

ed

ed by the Craftsmen of Edinburgh and Mary Erskine, do swear and faithfully promise, with my best Skill and Power to discharge all that is required of me by the Statutes of the said Hospital truly and honestly. So help me God, And Captain John Wightman Skinner, Burges of Edinburgh, being formerly chosen Treasurer, and having given his Oath for faithful Administration, is to continue in that Station, until the first annual Election, being the said second Monday of October next to come; and it is hereby declared and ordained, That a Treasurer, serving the said Hospital without Fee or Sallary, shall have a Vote, as other Governors: He being always a Benefactor, and his Donation recorded.

VII. The

VII.

The Treasurer may be continued two Years, or more, if the Governors shall think fit to elect him of new yearly ; and he shall yearly make his Accompts of his whole yearly Intromissions, and give in the samen to the Auditors, the first *Monday* of *October* yearly, who shall be obliged to deliver in the saids Accompts with their Report of the samen to the Governors, the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, being the annual Meeting: And the Governors of the Hospital are to finish and conclude their approving or disproving of the same Accompts, before the Admission of the new Governors for the Year ensuing; and, at his Removal from his Office, he shall deliver up to the succeeding Treasurer, all Accompts

The Time
of the
Treasu-
rer's
compting.

compts and Papers, which belong any Way to his Office, or may give Insight for discharging the same, which are to be kept in good Order, allowing always the Benefactors, who are alive for the Time, and after their Death, whom they shall appoint by Writ, to be present, if they please, with the said Auditors, in their auditing the same Accompts. If the Treasurer shall die, or by any Necessity be removed, the Governors shall within eight Days of his Death, or Removal, proceed to the Election of a new one.

VIII.

The Election of the Committee of nine, and Quorums of the Governors. Upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly, there shall be chosen by the Deacons of the Incorporations, who are Contributors, and the two Trades Counsellors for the Time, and the two Governors of

of the Name of Erskine, and these to be added to them, who are the Governors for the ensuing Year, nine of themselves, to be a Committee, for the more easy managing of the considerable Affairs and Concerns of the Hospital; and five of these nine to be a Quorum, and Auditors of the Treasurer's, and all other Accompts belonging to the Hospital, and for taking in the Treasurer's Accompts monthly, and preparing of the samen, that they may be the more readily audited and discharged at each Year's End, upon the said second *Monday* of *October* yearly. And the Treasurer, with any five of these nine, are impowered to order and manage all the smaller Affairs of the Hospital, and to meet as oft, for that Effect, as they think fit; which nine, or their Quorum, are to choice their own Preses at their Meet-

Meetings ; but as to the Matter of Election of the Governors, or a-
 nent the Rents of the Hospital, or
 the Government thereof, or any o-
 ther great Concern of the same,
 all the Governors, that are in Town
 for the Time, shall be warned by
 the Officer of the Hospital to the
 Meetings thereanent ; and what
 shall be concluded, by Plurality of
 Votes, shall stand in Force, there
 being always present at these Meet-
 ings, no less than fifteen of the Go-
 vernors. It is declared, that the
 Governors for the Time, may be
 present at all Committees and Sub-
 committees, if they think fit, whe-
 ther warned or not, and speak, ad-
 vise, and vote therein.

IX.

Upon the Death, Demission or
 Deprivation of the Clerk, at least
 within

The Elec-
 tion of
 Clerk.

within twenty Days thereafter, there is to be chosen another Clerk to the said Hospital, to continue during Life and good Behaviour, who shall keep in good Order, and digest all the Evidents and other Papers belonging to the Hospital, and make and keep Books of a full and a particular Record thereof, and to attend the Meetings and from what Orders and Resolutions are done therein, and take the Oath in the same Form, as is exprest in the Oath of the Treasurer, *mutatis mutandis*.

And, upon his Death or Removal, the Governors shall proceed within twenty Days to the Election of a new one ; the Clerk is to have paid quarterly to him, by the Treasurer, the Sum of

and William Brown Writer in Edinburgh being formerly chosen Clerk, and given his Oath for faithful Administration, is to continue in that

E

Station

Station during his Life and faithful Administration.

X.

The Election and Powers of the Governness, and Oath to be taken by her.

The present Governors have already elected and settled an old Gentlewoman, named *Isabella Grant*, Relict of Francis Forbes Gentleman, who voluntarily offered her Service to so charitable a Work *gratis* (a) : She is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, and, after her Death or Removal, the Governors for the Time are, within forty Days, to supply her Place, by electing another fit and qualified Person for that Station. The said Isabella Grant, and these who succeed to that Office, are to take Care, that the Scholars and Servants be brought up in the Fear of God, and

(a) Vide Appendix. No. 4:

and shall catechise and instruct the Scholars in the Principles of the Christian reformed Religion, and correct them for Faults, when Occasion requires, and shall take in the weekly Accompts, and deliver the same to the Treasurer, with her Opinion thereanent; they are to be unmarried Persons, not under forty Years of Age, before their Admission; they shall be obliged to take the Oath following. I A. B. *electd Mistress and Governess of the Maiden Hospital founded by the Craftsmen of Edinburgh and Mary Erskine, do swear, and faithfully promise before God, that, to my best Power, I shall discharge all which the Statutes of the said Hospital require from me; and shall do my best to see all the Statutes of the said Hospital observed by others, whom they do concern, and do promise faithful Obedience to the present Governors of the said Hospital, and their Successors in Office. So help me*
 GOD.

GOD. After which she is to get Possession of the Mistress's Lodgings, by some of the Governors, and publicly, in Presence of the Children and Servants, declared Mistress and Governess; and they commanded to give her all Obedience, under the Pain of being expelled from the Hospital: She is to have her Diet at a Table cross at the Head of the other, and shall not be any Night out of the Hospital, without the Leave of two at least of the Governors; and shall have a Care to see the whole Chambers and Office-houses kept clean and neat. If she marry, her Place thereby shall become void, or if she be convicted of any Scandal before the Governors, she shall be deposed; if at any Time she be found remiss and negligent, she is to be publicly admonished thereof by the Governors, which Admonition is to be registered,

strate; and if thereafter she offend in like Manner, she is to be deposed; and if, through Infirmary or old Age, she become incapable to exerce the Office, which is to be cognosced by the Governors, she is to be respectfully dismissed; but if she has served above ten Years, and not able to maintain herself, she is to be allowed Lodging and Maintenance in the Hospital during her Life, if she please to accept thereof. In case of her Deposition, Death, or Demission, the Governors are to proceed to the Election of a new Mistress or Governess, within forty Days thereafter. The Governesses succeeding to the said Isabella Grant, are to receive quarterly from the Treasurer the Sum of

XI.

The Elec-
tion of the
School-
mistress.

The present Governors have already elected and settled *Isabel Forbes*, daughter to the said Francis Forbes Gentleman, to be Schoolmistress, who is to continue in that Station during her Life and good Behaviour, whose Office and her Suecessors shall be to teach the Children to read, work Stockings, Lace, coloured and white Seam, Spinning, Carding, Washing and Dressing of Linens, Dressing of Meat, Cleaning of House, and all Sorts of Needle-work, and other ordinary Household Thrift; and, if they can, to teach the Girls also Writing, Arithmetick, and the common Parts of vocal Music. And if Women cannot be found to teach the whole Arts and Virtues above-mentioned, then

then the Governors are to provide an honest Man for some Part thereof, to come to the Hospital at such Hours as shall be appointed and thought convenient, who is to be satisfied for his Pains by the Treasurer. For the School-mistresses their Qualities of Life, good Report, &c. and for the Manner of their Election, Admission, Admonition, Deposition, and Election of a new one in their Place ; it shall in all Points be observed, as is expressed in the Rules which concern the Governesses ; they must be unmarried, and each of them shall receive from the Treasurer quarterly, the Sum of

XII.

The Governors for the Time, shall have power to cognosce and judge any Transgression and Fault com-
The Governors to judge the Treasurer, &c.

committed by the Treasurer, Clerk, Governess, and Schoolmistress, and consider whether the same merits Deprivation or not, and determine accordingly.

XIII.

The Election of the Cook.

There shall be chosen a Woman of good and honest Report, to be Cook to the Hospital ; she shall be charged with the clean and exact dressing of the Victuals ; two or three of the Children who are educate in the Hospital, shall be Time about appointed by the Mistress, to be present, and assist at the Dressing of the Victuals, that they may learn to handle Meat neatly : She shall have the keeping of all Utensils belonging to the Kitchen delivered to her by Inventory : She shall deliver up her Accompts for Bread, Drink, Candle, and other Things belonging

ing to her Charge, to the Mistress weekly, or as oft as she shall be required : She shall be chosen in manner foresaid, and continue during Pleasure allenary : She shall receive from the Treasurer quarterly, the Sum of
for her Wages : And as to the Rest of the Servants that may be needful for the said Hospital, it is left to the Governors Discretion to provide such, and give them such Allowances as they shall think fit.

XIV.

There shall be chosen and admitted into the said Hospital, so many ^{The Girls to be presented,} Children, as the Revenue of the said Hospital shall be able to maintain, *deductis deducendis*. And these Girls presented by the Incorporations, are to be the Children or Grand-children of the Freemen
F Crafts-men

Crafts-men of their own Incorporation, which failing, any other they please, of whose Poverty and Need of the Help of the Hospital, the Incorporation, who presents them, are to be Judges; but the Donators to the Hospital, who have a Right to present, by giving a Donation of 2000 Merks, may present any Girl they think fit, whether Crafts-man's Daughter or not; it being made appear to the Governors, or their Committee before mentioned, by a Declaration, under the Hand of the Donator, who hath Right, and presents a Girl, that she is an Object of Charity; which Declaration shall be a sufficient Instruction of her Poverty. (a) For each 2000 Merks Donation, the Person Giver thereof during his or her Life, and after their Death, any they shall appoint by Writ, hath a Title to present a Girl

(a) Vide Appendix. No 2, and No 5.

Girl, and as oft as the Presentation shall vaick, they shall have the Renewing thereof; and if any two Persons shall jointly give in 2000 Merks of their own proper Means, they shall have the presenting of a Child, *alternis vicibus*, or as they shall agree. The Girls to be admitted to the Hospital must be wholesome and sound of their Body at their Entry, and capable to learn, and must not be under seven Years of Age, nor above twelve Years, when they enter; and are to continue in the Hospital until they be eighteen Years of Age, and no longer, and each of them at their Entry, must be decently apparel'd, at the Sight of the Governors and Treasurer; and when that Apparel is worn, their Apparel afterwards is to be all of one Piece, without Distinction of Persons, and as plain, as may be, and all of one Colour, and with
such

such Mark as the Governors shall appoint; but when they go out of the Hospital at eighteen Years of Age, they are to be clad in new Apparel distinct from what they did wear in the Hospital, each Girl's Apparel not exceeding the Sum of an hundred Merks Scots, which is to be paid by the Treasurer. The ordinary Time of receiving in of the Girls, is to be the first *Monday of November* yearly; when it is to be considered by the Governors what Vacancies there are, and how many the Estate and Revenue of the Hospital is able to maintain, that so many qualified, as is before expressed, be then taken in, who shall have a Lodging, Bed, Dyet, washing, and common Fires allowed to them, besides their being educate and taught in Manner aforesaid; and shall be comely and decently apparel'd

appareled, both in their Cloaths
and Linens.

XV.

In Respect, frequent Losses fall ^{The lending of Money.} out in lending Money, it is enacted and appointed, That no Money belonging to the said Hospital, be laid out or imployed, but by an Act of the Governors, voted by Way of Balloting; and that either for purchasing of Land, or lent upon real Security of Land reputed free of Incumbrances, or to the Town of Edinburgh, on the Town's Security, or to any other three responsal Persons, upon their Bond, bound conjunctly and severally, providing the Sum lent to these three Persons do not exceed five thousand Merks.

It

XVI.

Fees and
Salaries.

It is hereby declared, That the Blanks for Fees or Salaries in the forefaids Rules and Constitutions, may be filled up by the Governors, after due Consideration and Experience of what may be fuitable to be allowed.

XVII.

The Do-
nators
Names to
be put up
in Gold
Letters.

It is hereby ordered and appointed, That each Donator's Name and Designation shall be put up in the Hall of the said Hospital in Gold Letters, and the Sum mentioned there which they gave in Donation.

XVIII.

A Room
for sick
Children.

That there be a Room, one or more set apart for the sick Children

dren, to be kept separate from the other Children, and that every sick Child have a Bed by herself.

XIX.

That the Donators who have the Right and Title to present upon a Vacancy may have timeous Advertisement, there shall be a Board affixed upon the principal Entry of the Hospital, giving Notice to which Person the Presentation falls.

Form of
advertising
Vacancies.

XX.

It being necessary that the Rights, Evidents and other Writs of Importance belonging to the said Hospital, be kept safe, and in good Order; and likeways, when there shall be at any Time, thro' God's Blessing, a greater Sum lying in specie,

A Stone
Room for
the Papers

species, than what is like to be necessary for defraying the ordinary Expences, it were hard that the Treasurer should be troubled with so great a Charge: Therefore, both with Respect to the Papers and Money, 'tis recommended to the Governors, with their Convenience, to order a pended Room in the Hospital, to be made all Stone, with a good Fire-light, and a Door of Iron, with three different Locks and Keys; one whereof to be kept by the Deacon Conveener for the Time, another by the eldest Governor of the Name of *Erskine*, and one by the Treasurer of the Hospital for the Time.

XXI.

The annual meeting.

It is declared, That for the better establishing and ordering this good and pious Work, by settling the

the Rules thereof, after due Experience, in the best Manner, that the Governors (and all Contributors, if they think fit) are to meet every Year at Edinburgh, in the Hall of the Hospital, upon the *second Monday of January*, beginning the first yearly Meeting upon the *second Monday of January*, One Thousand seven Hundred and eight Years. At these Meetings, it shall be leifom to these conveened, providing their Number be seventeen or more, to reconsider the fore-saids Articles and Rules, and to add thereto, and order whatever they find just and necessary for the Good of the Hospital, the samen being always consistent with the fore-mentioned Rules and Constitutions, and particularly these in Favours of the said Mary Erskine, as they are contained in the fore-

G

mentioned

mentioned Disposition made by her to the said Hospital, and these Additions and Orders to be determined by the Plurality of Votes of these convened. And it is declared leifom to all Ladies and other Women, who are, or shall be Benefactors to the Hospital, to have their Proxies in the said yearly Meetings, they always having written Mandates for that Effect.

XXII.

Conclusion

The Articles and Rules before-mentioned and set down, consisting of eight Pages in the principal subscribed Rules, each Page thereof being signed by Gilbert Somer-vel present Deacon Conveener, and Mr James Erskine of Grange, one of the Senators of the College of Justice,

Justice, are unanimously agreed to, and settled in Manner foresaid. We the present Governors and Contributors, Subscribers hereto, bind and oblige us and our Successors, who shall be concerned in the Hospital, to keep and observe the same faithfully and firmly according to the true Meaning and Intent thereof, *declaring*, That the Persons, who shall afterwards subscribe and contribute for advancing the said good Work, may likewise at the same Time subscribe to these Presents; and if Need be's, That afterwards a Ratification of the foresaid Rules and Constitutions (or as they shall be amended) may be procured from the Parliament, which is recommended to the Governors of the Hospital for the Time, to see done. In Witness whereof, we have subscribed these Presents
with

with our Hands, at Edinburgh the
ninth Day of September, One
Thousand seven Hundred and seven
Years.

F I N I S.

APPENDIX.



A P P E N D I X.

14th January 1712.

THE Governors and Donators No. I.
Election
of the
Treasurer.
present, do all unanimously
agree to the Alteration of the *Rules*
and *Constitutions* made by the Go-
vernors upon the 30th January
1711; whereby they were of Opi-
nion, that the Treasurer should be
elected yearly on the *third Monday* of
October, notwithstanding of any
Thing in the *Constitutions* to the con-
trary; in Regard the new nine Go-
vernors are to have a Vote in his
Election

Election by the *Constitutions*, upon the *second Monday of October*; and that being the Day they are elected themselves, it cannot be supposed they can be present that Day to vote for the Treasurer.

13th January, 1724.

No. 2.
Donators
having
Power to
present.

The Governors and Donators present, enacted, That in all Time coming no Donator should have the Privilege of presenting a Girl to the Hospital, if the same be not a Child or Grandchild of a Freeman of the fourteen Incorporations of Edinburgh, unless the Donator give a Donation of 3000 Merks, Scots Money; but if it be a Freeman's Child or Grandchild that is to be presented, the Donator shall have Right for a Donation of 2500 Merks Scots; declaring, that any Person that is already, or shall be

a Donator to this Hospital, shall have the Privilege in the above Terms to present a Girl, upon their making up their Donation to the respective Sums of 2500 or 3000 Merks Scots, in the foresaid Events.

19th January 1727.

The Governors and Donators<sup>No. 3.
The 28
Governors</sup> present having it represented to them by the Society of Barbers in Edinburgh, that conform to a Decree of the Lords of Council and Session, dated 3d February 1722, the Barbers are obliged to relieve the Surgeons of the Maintenance of two of the four Girls, to which the Surgeons have a Right of Presentation in this Hospital; and the Barbers having accordingly granted Security to the Governors of the Hospital, for the Maintenance of the

the faids two Girls, craved they might have a Share of the Government of the faid Hospital, or at least that one of their Number should, in all Time coming, be yearly elected one of nine additional Governors, or in any other Way, as shall appear most reasonable to the Governors: The Governors and Donators are of Opinion, that agreeable to Powers vested in them (by Rule 21st) to reconsider the Articles or Rules of the Hospital, and add thereto, and order whatever they find just and necessary for the Good of the Hospital, under the Limitations therein mentioned; they may warrantably declare, That, in all Time coming, while the Barbers continue in the Maintenance of the foresaids two Girls, that, in Place of the nine additional Governors, there shall be Ten, the Tenth being always elected out of

of the Society of Barbers, and the Nine freely elected as formerly: So that the Government shall henceforward consist of 28 Persons, viz. 14 Deacons, two Trades Counsellors, two of the Name of Erskine, and nine annually elected, and one to be chosen annually out of the Society of Barbers, by the Governors.

11th January 1731.

The Governors and Donators, by Plurality of Votes, enacted, That, in Time coming, the Governess and School Mistress of the Hospital shall be elected annually upon the Day of electing the Treasurer, and to give their Oath conform to the Statutes.

No. 4.
The Election of the Governess annually.

10th January 1732.

No. 5.
Privilege
of Dona-
tors Heirs.

The Governors and Donators present, do hereby statute and ordain, conform to the Powers lodged in them, by the 21st Article of the Rules, That in Case a Donator, that gives such a Sum as intitles him or her to the Presentation of a Girl, leave not a Writ under his or her Hand, yet the Donator's Heirs should have Right to the Presentation, notwithstanding the 14th Article of the Rules and Constitutions.

F I N I S

14th January 1740.

THE Governors and Donators No. 6:
 present did unanimously re-
 scind the Act of Date the 19th of
 January 1727, in so far as it im-
 powers the Governors of the Hos-
 pital to elect one out of the Socie-
 ty of Barbers to be a Governor:
 And did, and hereby do declare,
 That in all Time coming, while the
 Barbers continue to maintain two
 Girls in the Hospital, out of their own
 separate Stock; the Society of Bar-
 bers, *qua* Donators, shall yearly
 name, and present one of their own
 Number to represent the Society in
 the Quality of a Governor; which
 Person so elected by the Society of
 Barbers, shall be received as a Go-
 vernor, and shall have the same
 Power which, by the third Chapter
 of

of the Statutes, is given to every Donator who gives a Sum fit to maintain one or more Girls in the Hospital.

10th January 1743.

- No. 7. The Governors and Donators present, enacted, That hereafter, in case of the Death of any of the Deacons of Incorporations, the Governors of the Hospital for the Time shall admit and receive the Person whom that Incorporation shall think fit to choose for their Preses, or any other Person specially commissioned by them for that effect,

Eodem Die.

- No. 8. The Governors and Donators present, enacted, That in Time coming, Eleven of the ordinary Governors to be a Quorum, in place of

of Fifteen appointed by the 8th Article of the *Rules and Constitutions* of the Hospital, with the same Powers that are mentioned in said Act.

9th January 1744.

The Governors and Donators No. 9. present, considering that in the Hospital suitable Maintenance, Clothing, and Education, are afforded the Children till they attain the Age of Eighteen Years, at which Time they are dismissed; which supposes them all fit and able to do for themselves, or to be otherwise provided for; but that, after that Age, no Provision is made for such who (tho' never so promising when admitted) by Misfortunes, as Loss of Judgment, Blindness, Lameness, or otherwise, may be disabled, and at the same Time destitute of any probable Support,

Support, except the Charity of the Incorporations to which they belong : Therefore the Governors and Donators statute and ordain, That such Girls, being Children or Grandchildren of Freemen of Edinburgh, or of the Society of Barbers there, so disabled and destitute, (the Governors for the Time being Judges) shall and may continue in the Hospital, and shall be maintained and clothed out of the Increase-Fund, they remaining still under the same Regulations with the other Children: Provided always, That those Girls have no such vicious Dispositions, or infectious Diseases, as may hazard the corrupting the Morals, or endanger the Health of the other Children, and that they be not furious; Provided also, That it shall be in the Power of the Governors, at any Time, to turn out the

the said Girls, if they shall see Cause, and to give them the same Allowance for Clothing, as if they had gone out at the Age of Eighteen years.

9th January 1749.

The Governors and Donators No. 102 present considering, that, by the 14th Chapter of the *Constitutions* of the Hospital, the Girls to be presented by the Incorporations are to be the Children or Grandchildren of the Freemen Craftsmen of their own Corporations, it is then added, *Which failing, any other they please;* in order to avoid any Mistake concerning this Clause for the future, they order this Clause to be added; *Which failing, any other they please, belonging either to another Corporation within this City, or to the Society of Barbers within the same.*

Eodem

Eodem Die.

No. 11.

The Governors and Donators ordered, That from this Time forward, all Donations made to the Hospital, and the several Entries of Twenty Pounds Scots with the Girls, shall be kept in a distinct Account by itself; and shall, at the Time of the Treasurer his accounting yearly, be lent out on Interest, and become a Part of the Hospital's Stock: Declaring hereby, That it shall be in the Option of each Corporation, and of every Donator, to purchase the Entry-money of each Girl they have a Right to present at the Rate of L. 5 Sterling.

8th January 1750.

No 12.

The Governors and Donators present enacted, That in all Time coming,

coming, the stated and only Times for electing Girls to be educated and maintained on the Fund, under the Administration of the ordinary Governos, shall be the first *Monday* of *November*, and first *Monday* of *May* yearly ; when it is to be considered by the Governors what Vacancies there are, and how many the Estate and Revenue of the Hospital is able to maintain ; and then only Children and Grandchildren of incorporated Freemen, or Members of the Society of Barbers in Edinburgh, shall be chosen : And if none such shall claim the Benefit of being admitted, the Vacancy or Vacancies shall continue until the next annual Time of Election. And it shall not be in the Power of the Governors to receive any Girl or Girls to be educated and maintained upon said Fund, but such as are qualified as
I above,

above, and on the said two Days above stated ; and that such as are so admitted, shall be educated and entertained conform to the *Rules and Constitutions* of the Hospital.

13th January 1766.

No. 13.

The Governors and Donators present, considering, that the Incorporations of Weavers, Waukers, and Bonnet-makers, have of late Years run into considerable Arrears to the Hospital, by neglecting to pay up the Annualrents due on their Bonds yearly, to the great Prejudice of the Hospital ; and being sensible, that the Support of the Hospital must depend on the punctual and regular Payment of the Annualrents due by the Fourteen Incorporations and the Society of Barbers respectively : Therefore, the Governors and Donators present,

present, in Virtue of the Powers lodged in them by the Twenty first Article of the Rules or Statutes, did, and hereby do enact, statute, and ordain, that in all Time coming, in case any of the Fourteen Incorporations of this City, or the Society of Barbers, shall fall into Arrears of the Annualrents, or other yearly *Quotas* payable by them to the Hospital, it shall not be leifome nor lawful to such Incorporation or Society to present any Girl to the Hospital, until such Time as they shall have paid up the whole Arrears resting by such Incorporation or Society respectively. And further, they did, and hereby do enact, statute, and ordain, That in case any of the said Incorporations, or the said Society of Barbers, shall fall into Arrears of two Years Annualrents of their Bonds to the Hospital, or of two
Years

Years annual *Quotas* payable by them to the Hospital respectively, the Deacon or Preses of such Incorporation fallen into Arrears as aforesaid, and the Preses of the said Society of Barbers, in case they fall into Arrears to the extent foresaid, shall, from the Time of their falling into the said Arrears, be incapable of acting as Governors of said Hospital, or of having any Concern in the Administration or Management thereof, until such Time as the whole Arrears resting by them respectively shall be paid up to the said Hospital; and which Incapacity shall not be removeable by the Governors themselves in a Meeting assembled, except the Deacon or Preses claiming to be admitted or restored to his Place as a Governor, shall produce to the Meeting a Discharge from the Treasurer of the Hospital, of all preceding

ceding Arrears resting to the Hospital by the Incorporation or Society to which the Person claiming to be admitted or restored to his Place as a Governor shall belong. And further, the Meeting enacted and ordained, That, in all Time coming, the Annualrents and yearly *Quotas* shall be punctually and regularly levied and collected from each Incorporation, and from the Society of Barbers, whether they present Girls to the Hospital or not.

9th January 1769.

The Governors and Donators present, resolved to augment, as follows, the Sums which are to intitle a Donator to the right of presenting a Girl to this Hospital, viz. from two thousand, to two thousand five hundred merks, in case the Girl, to be presented, be the Child

No. 14.

Child or Grand-Child of a freeman of the fourteen Incorporations, or of the Society of Barbers in Edinburgh, and from two thousand five hundred merks, to three thousand merks, in case the Girl, to be presented, be the Child or Grand-Child of a Freeman of the fourteen Incorporations, or of the Society of Barbers, or a Relation of the Person having right, for the time, to present within the Degrees mentioned under the Rule No. 10. (specially narrated in their Minutes of 9th January 1744) and from L. 200 to L. 250 Sterl. for the right of presenting any Girl, that the Person having right to present, shall think fit.

N. B. The

N. B. The Degrees mentioned in the Minutes above referred to, are *Child, Grandchild, Sister, Niece, Grandniece, Cousinerman, or second Cousin, to the Person, having right for the time to present, and the Girl presented being otherways qualified in Terms of the Statutes.*

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